

A CONFIGURABLE MECHANISM AND ABSTRACT API MODEL

FOR DIRECTORY OPERATIONS

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A method providing an application computer program to be written

- 5 independently of the structure of a directory information tree. The application
program makes calls to an innovative API, the API accessing the structure of the
directory information tree in an innovative template. If the structure of the
directory information tree is changed, the template is changed, but the
application is not changed. Embodiments include the above and further
comprise the steps of: the API software receiving the template name and
reading a template according to the received template name, the
template comprising: i) structural information of the directory information tree; ii) a
second set of attributes, the second set comprising default attribute values; iii) a
third set of attributes that are required to have assigned values; and iv)
information specifying a verification program; passing a first set of attributes to
the API, the passed first set of attributes not including a location for said entry
within said directory information tree; verifying of one or more attributes of the
first set of attributes using the verification program; the API software constructing
the entry; detecting the condition of the constructed entry being unacceptable for
20 addition to the directory information tree; and adding the constructed entry to the
directory information tree at the destination location.